AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please insert the following headings and paragraph at page 1, after the title:

Priority Claim

This is a 35 U.S.C. §371 National Stage of International Application No. PCT/EP2003/013993, filed on December 10, 2003. Priority is claimed on that application and on the following application:

Country: Germany, Application No. 102 58 525.3, Filed: December 14, 2002.

Background of the Invention

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 1, lines 3-5, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The invention relates to a pressure electrolyser ~~in accordance with the pre-characterising clause of claim 1~~, and a process for switching off a pressure electrolyser ~~in accordance with the pre-characterising clause of claim 9~~.

Please insert the following heading at page 2, between lines 5-6:

Summary of the Invention

Please delete the paragraphs beginning at page 2, lines 10-14.

Please insert the following heading at page 5, before line 1:

Brief Description of the Drawings

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 5, lines 1-2, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Figs. 1a) and 1b) show a ~~schematised~~ schematic view of a pressure electrolyser as disclosed in the invention in an operating mode (Fig. 1a) and in a switched-off mode (Fig. 1b).

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 5, lines 3-4, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Figs. 2a) and 2b) show a ~~schematised~~ schematic view of a pressure electrolyser as disclosed in the invention in an operating mode (Fig. 2a) and in a switched-off mode (Fig. 2b).

Please insert the following heading at page 5, between lines 4-5:

Detailed Description of the Invention

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 6, line 23 to page 7, line 4, with the following rewritten paragraph:

In the embodiment illustrated in Figs. 1a) and 1b) the aforementioned connecting line is provided outside the pressure reservoir (12), two different versions thereof being illustrated in the same diagram. For example, the connecting line running outside the pressure reservoir (12) may be formed either by a connecting line (23a) which connects a volume area associated with the oxygen separator (21) inside the pressure reservoir (12) to a volume area associated with the hydrogen separator (22) inside the pressure reservoir (12), or by a shuttle line (23b) which connects the oxygen separator (21) to the hydrogen separator (22) and runs beneath the liquid level of the electrolyte. Finally, the aforementioned connecting line may also connect an area 17 of the electrolyte circuit associated with the oxygen separator (21) to an area 18 of the electrolyte circuit associated with the hydrogen separator (22) inside the pressure reservoir (12) (although this version is not illustrated in Figs. 1a) and 1b)).

Please insert the following new paragraph at page 8, after line 21:

Although the present invention has been described in relation to particular embodiments thereof, many other variations and modifications and other uses will become apparent to those skilled in the art. It is preferred, therefore, that the present invention be limited not by the specific disclosure herein, but only by the appended claims.

Please delete page 9 in its entirety.